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REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 7 and 21 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-4, 8-18, and 22-24 remain pending in the instant application. Claims 1-6, 8-20 and 22-30 presently stand rejected. Claims 1 and 14 are amended herein. Claims 5-7 and 19-21 are hereby cancelled without prejudice. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-20, and 22-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozugur et al. (US 2003/0189933 A1). Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozugur in view of Comellas et al. (Integrated IP/WDM Routing in GMPLS-Based Optical Networks, IEEE Network March/April 2003, pg. 22-27).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include all of the subject matter of claim 7 deemed allowable by the Examiner along with all of the subject matter of the intervening claims 5 and 6. *Final Office Action* mailed 1/17/07, page 18, "Allowable Subject Matter" section.

Independent claim 14 has been amended to include all of the subject matter of claim 21 deemed allowable by the Examiner along with all of the subject matter of the intervening claims 19 and 20. *Final Office Action* mailed 1/17/07, page 18, "Allowable Subject Matter" section.

Independent claim 25 is hereby cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly, all pending independent claims now include subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner.

The dependent claims are nonobvious over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with their respective independent claims, in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103 rejections of the dependent claims be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

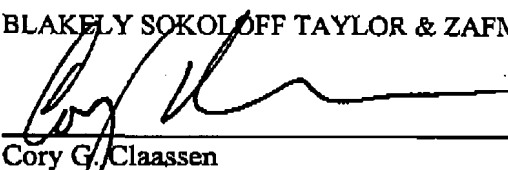
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: April 12, 2007
Cory G. Claassen
Reg. No. 50,296
Phone: (206) 292-8600